# MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE RESOURCE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

## October 11, 2010

City of Chula Vista, Council Chambers 276 Fourth Avenue

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** 

By Chair Stillman at 4:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:** 

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair Stillman, Commissioners Coleman, Cory,

Rahimzadeh, and Ross

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** 

Vice Chair Gilgun

STAFF PRESENT:

Conservation & Environmental Services Director Meacham, Environmental Services Program Manager

France, and Sr. Secretary Fields

OTHERS PRESENT:

None

MOTION TO EXCUSE:

Motion to excuse Commissioner Gilgun's absence

approved

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** 

None

**ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:** 

None

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

## 1. Extended Producer Responsibility

Environmental Services Program Manager France gave the presentation and showed a video on waste management. The video pointed out that the type and amount of waste has changed significantly over the years, with product waste skyrocketing. It also noted that in the future, more and more products will be banned from the trash. One of the complicating factors of the problem according to the video is that it is multi-faceted—it's a solid waste problem, a hazardous waste problem, a waste water problem, and a storm water problem, all of which adds up to be a public health problem. Experts and professionals from these areas are coming together to help solve the problem, and legislative bodies are trying to address the problem both because of the volume of the waste and because of the make up of hazardous products.

The video stated that we currently operate under two completely separate and disconnected systems. One system is related to production and sales and is controlled by producers who make the design and marketing decisions that cause raw materials to be extracted and products to be manufactured, transported, and sold to the consumer. The other system involves local governments, which become financially responsible for collecting and

managing the disposal of these private goods, many of which are toxic and disposable by design.

Extended Producer Responsibility would be a better way to manage waste. Through the program, designers, producers, sellers, and users would take responsibility for minimizing a product's environmental impact throughout all stages of the product's life cycle, with the producer having the most responsibility. The video stated that product recycling should be an extension of the product marketing system, and should be managed through commercial arrangements.

The Board held a lengthy discussion on the topic and asked a series of questions to which Environmental Services Program Manager France responded. She added that they are trying to shift the way people think about waste—that it needs to be thought of as a resource—a material to be managed.

No action was taken. The item was continued to a future meeting.

### DIRECTOR OF CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES COMMENTS

Director Meacham discussed the following topics:

Announcement of a Green Fleets Conference to be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> and 19th

## CHAIR COMMENTS

None

#### **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**

None

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. to a regular meeting on Monday, October 25, 2010, at 4:00 pm in Council Chambers, 276 Fourth Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910.

Prepared by:

Sneryi Fielgs Sr. Secretary